

(a) whether the State Government of Jharkhand have requested to increase the sanctioned posts of judges in the High Court of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the view point of Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, whether Government will take initiative to consider this issue keeping in view the number of pending cases in the High Court of Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (c) In pursuance of the judgment of the Supreme Court of October 6, 1993 in the Supreme Court Advocates on Record & Anrs. vs. the Union of India, the judge strength of the High Courts is reviewed every three years. Last review was conducted in the year 2006 in which the Jharkhand High Court did not qualify for increase in their judge strength.

Computerization of courts

†3413. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have sanctioned funds for computerization of district and subordinate courts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent of funds sanctioned for each State/Union Territory;

(c) whether Government are of the view that the delay in disposal of cases will be reduced on account of computerization of district and subordinate courts and the Judicial system of the country will become efficient; and

(d) if so, manner in which it is likely to materialize?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (b) Government has approved a scheme for computerization of District and Subordinate Courts in the country, the first phase of which is to be completed by 2007-08 at an estimated cost of Rs. 442 crore. An amount of Rs. 187.05 crore has

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

been released upto 31.3.2007 to the implementing agency of the scheme, namely the National Informatics Centre, which has been entrusted with the task of implementing the scheme in the various courts in the States/ Union Territories.

(c) and (d) It is expected that the implementation of the scheme will reduce delays in disposal of cases, cut down process time and costs, cut down pendency, facilitate access of the litigants to court orders, judgements and statement of witnesses, facilitate the judicial officers in their day to day functioning in justice delivery, ensure transparency in the system and generally benefit all stakeholders and enhance judicial productivity both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Creation of new family laws

3414. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that legislators all over the country are feeling that the Supreme Court of India and High Courts in the country through the process of interpretation of law have created new family laws which have no sanction of the legislature;

(b) whether Government proposes to examine all such laws which cannot be created while interpreting a legislation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

Evening Courts in Gujarat

3415. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that judges and lawyers in Gujarat have been attending 42 evening courts since December 2006 and have successfully decided around 35,000 small offence civil and criminal cases, with a little extra remuneration; and